Amendments to the Claims

1   1. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for ordering

2   multimedia content, comprising the steps of:

3   segmenting the multimedia content to extract objects, in which the

4   objects are video object planes;

5   extracting and associating features of the video object planes to

6   produce content entities, wherein the content entities are recursive data

7   structures comprising features, relations, directed acyclic graphs and

8   containment sets;

9   coding the content entities to produce directed acyclic graphs of the

10   content entities, each directed acyclic graph representing a particular

11   interpretation of the multimedia content;

12   measuring high-level temporal attributes of each content entity;

13   assigning the measured high-level temporal attributes to each

14   corresponding content entity in the directed acyclic graphs to order

15   temporally the content entities of the multimedia content; and

16   comparing the ordered content entities in a plurality of the directed

17   acyclic graphs to determine similar interpretations of the multimedia

18   content.

1   2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes include

2   intensity attributes.

1   3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes include

2   direction attributes.

1   4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured

2   attributes include spatial attributes and the order is spatial.

1   5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured

2   attributes include temporal attributes and the order is temporal.

1   6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes are

2   arranged in an increasing rank order.

1   7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes are

2   arranged in an decreasing rank order.

1   8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step

2   of:

3   traversing the multimedia content according to the directed acyclic

4   graph and the measured attributes assigned to the content entities.

1   9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step

2   of:

3   summarizing the multimedia content according to the directed acyclic

4   graph and the measured attributes assigned to the content entities.

1   10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the multimedia content is a

2   three dimensional video sequence.

3   11. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein nodes of the directed acyclic

4   graphs represent the content entities and edges represent breaks in the

5   segmentation, and the measured attributes are associated with the

6   corresponding edges.

1   12. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein at least one secondary content

2   entity is associated with a particular content entity, and wherein the

3   secondary content entity is selected during the traversing.

1   13. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein a summary of the multimedia

2   is a selected permutation of the content entities according to the associated

3   ranks.